Meghna (GBM) and Indus originate from neighbouring countries. The names of the river basins and the countries from where main courses or tributaries originate are as under:

River	Country
Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna	China, Nepal, Bhutan
Indus	China, Afghanistan

About 30 % of the upstream catchment area of Ganga-Brahmaputra- Meghna and about 13% of upper catchment of Indus lies in neighbouring countries.

(c) and (d) Government of India has not entered into a long term agreement for overall water sharing with these countries. However, India has entered into agreement for bilateral co-operation on specific issues related to water.

Flood prone regions in the country

†227.DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set any target to make the flood affected regions of the country flood free under the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the area out of the existing flood affected regions in the country to become flood free after the Eleventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the amount spent by Government under this plan since 2005, till date and the total amount to be spent by the end of the Eleventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the Report of Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) of 1980, total flood prone area in the country, was estimated as 40 million hectares (m ha), which has now been reassessed to 45.358 m ha. As the total elimination or control of floods or providing total immunity from the effects of all magnitude of floods is not practically possible, the flood management measures are aimed to provide a reasonable degree of protection only against floods.

(b) As per the Report of the Working Group on Water Resources for the XI Five Year Plan (2007-12), a total area of about 18 m ha has been provided reasonable degree of flood protection through various structural/ non-structural measures upto the end of X Plan period and the proposed measures for flood control in XI Plan are likely to benefit an additional area of 2.18 m ha by the end of XI Plan.

(c) Flood Management is within the purview of States and the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments as per their own priorities. The Government of India is also providing financial assistance to the State Governments for undertaking flood management works in critical areas. During XI Plan, the Cabinet has approved 'in principle' a scheme namely 'Flood Management Programme' under State sector with an estimated cost of Rs.8,000 crore for providing central assistance to the State Governments for undertaking flood

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

management works, in critical areas. Since the financial year 2004-05, the Government of India has provided central assistance amounting to Rs.971.13 crore to the States upto 31.1.2009 under different plan schemes.

Repair works of Kosi embankment

†228.SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to leakage in embankment of Kosi river at Kusaha during last year, five districts in Bihar had been immersed in water which had been admitted as a National calamity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the repair works are going on the above site; and

(d) if so, the date by which this work will be completed and the amount spent by Government till date on this construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to breach in Eastern Afflux Bund of Kosi Barrage near Kusaha (Nepal), five districts in Bihar, namely, Madhepura, Araria, Supaul, Saharsa and Purnea were reported affected by the unprecedented flood. As per the press note released from the Disaster Management Department of the Government of Bihar dated 6.11.2008, the total population affected was reported as 33.56 lakh and the number of villages as 993.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The repair works of Eastern Afflux Bund of Kosi Barrage near Kusaha (Nepal) are under implementation and scheduled to be completed by 31st March, 2009 and as per the works planned by the State Government of Bihar. An amount of Rs. 39.90 crore was released in October, 2008 to the Government of Bihar as an advance for this work.

Construction of Dams

229. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Bihar is destined to face the disaster year after year unless high dams constructed in the upper reaches of at least three rivers – Kosi, Kamla and Bagmati, all of which originate from Nepal;

(b) if so, whether Government has worked out any preventive plan in details through negotiation with Nepal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For early implementation of high dams on river Kosi, Kamla and Bagmati in Nepal, the Government of India is in constant dialogue with the Government of Nepal. For this purpose, a Joint Project Office -Saptakosi and Sunkosi Investigations (JPO-SKSKI) has already been set up in August, 2004 at Biratnagar (Nepal), for conducting detailed field investigations, in order to prepare

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